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SX 16823

30 January 1958

SX 16823

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT 0 : Contact with AECASSOWARY-2 at Prolog Offices on 16 and 17 January 1958

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 382B
VAZIMAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Contact was made with AECASSOWARY-2 at the Prolog offices, 875 West End Avenue, New York, New York by the undersigned case officer on 16 and 17 January 1958. Matters under discussion concerned PP, financial, and administrative aspects of Project AERODYNAMIC.

2. Prolog Magazine: Completion of the first 1958 issue of Prolog magazine is scheduled for late January 1958, when it will be turned over to the undersigned for printing. Four articles written by representatives from the Polish, Russian, Ukrainian and Turkestani emigrations will be included.

AECASSOWARY-2 stated that as of January 1958, 1963 copies of the Prolog magazine have been sent out primarily to libraries, institutions, embassies, and individuals in the West, but also 33 copies to libraries in the USSR, 15 copies to libraries in Poland and 15 copies to libraries in Yugoslavia. (Detailed breakdown of distribution in the West was given in the 18 November 1957 contact report)

AECASSOWARY-2 also stated that the total cost of Prolog magazine to date has been approximately \$500, which was expended primarily for mailing and distribution, but also included typing and the honorariums to the contributors. He also inquired whether some funds could be included specifically for the Prolog magazine in the 1959 AERODYNAMIC budget.

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The National War College ordered 200 copies of the Prolog magazine No.2, which included AECASSOWARY-18's article on "Strategy of Soviet Expansion". The War College plans to include the article in their list of required reading for their classes.

3. Digest of Soviet Ukrainian Press: The undersigned made several suggestions on the format and style of the "Digest" and informed AECASSOWARY-2 that a more exhaustive analysis of the content and style is being prepared. AECASSOWARY-2 asked whether it would not be possible to include some funds for this activity in the AERODYNAMIC FY 1959 budget.

4. Information Bulletin: AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he has made arrangements to have approximately 200 copies of the "Information Bulletin" mailed from Belgium to the Soviet Union each month. He also stated that it would be advisable to find new countries from which to mail the "Information Bulletin" in order to prevent possible Soviet censorship at point of entry. Additional countries from which the Bulletin could be sent are

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Brazil, Egypt, Norway and Austria, but the problem of finances limits the extension of this activity to these countries at the present time.

AECASSOWARY-2 also inquired whether it would be possible to have copies of the "Information Bulletin" mailed from East Berlin to avoid border censorship. He also asked whether it might not be a good idea to send some copies in ostensible Michailov Committee envelopes. These letters should have an excellent chance of getting to the addresses in the Soviet Ukraine. Another possibility is to have them mailed in Czechoslovakia by tourists visiting Vienna.

5. Radio PYREX: The Undersigned picked up the last four tapes prepared for broadcast over Radio PYREX. In the future the Prolog group will try to prepare eight tapes per month. The Undersigned Case Officer informed AECASSOWARY-2 of the new change of transmission time and the increased total broadcast time. AECASSOWARY-2 requested information on the new frequencies of transmission, inquiring whether a more suitable time could not be obtained.

AECASSOWARY-2 asked whether it would be possible to send letters to selected individuals in the Soviet Ukraine from Moscow, giving information and time schedules of the Radio PYREX broadcasts. He also asked if some monitoring of the broadcasts could be made to determine the reception, range and quality of the broadcasts.

In view of the increased number of tapes prepared each month, AECASSOWARY-2 inquired whether it would not be possible to hire a young radio and tape recorder technician to take charge of the technical aspect of the broadcasts. He would only work approximately one week per month and about \$50 to \$75 a month might suffice to cover his salary. AECASSOWARY-2 suggested a young Ukrainian, frankly who is connected with ~~Joseph~~ Joseph HIRNIAK's Ukrainian theater in New York and is well qualified for such a position.

Tapes prepared by AEBEEHIVE have repeatedly stressed the discrimination practiced by the Soviet Union against the Ukrainian minority in the Urals, RFSR, Siberia, and the Far East provinces, where no Ukrainian schools, newspapers, books or cultural activities are allowed in contrast to the Russian minority in the Ukrainian SSR which has its own newspapers, libraries, schools and theaters. The first indication of a change in this policy of minority discrimination was noted in the 15 November 1957 issue of the Kiev Soviet Ukrainian "Literary Gazette" in an article describing a Ukrainian Book Festival which was held in Sverdlovsk, in the Urals.

The following excerpt from the article translated and published in the "Digest of the Soviet Ukrainian Press" reveals the great response to the Festival on the part of the Ukrainians in that area:

"Ukrainian writers were invited to attend the Ukrainian Book Festival held in the Urals late in October.

~~M.~~ STROKOVSKY, ~~B.~~ CHALY, ~~M.~~ HERNYK and this author (Vasyl MYNKO) flew to Sverdlovsk. The people of the Urals are certainly kind-hearted. They love our Ukraine and our Ukrainian culture. Large posters were shown all over Sverdlovsk calling the Ural people to bookstores, clubs and palaces of culture:

"COME ALL TO THE UKRAINIAN BOOK FESTIVAL! "

During those days Ukrainian books were propagated over the radio and in local newspapers; Ukrainian books were sold in all bookstores, stands and in shops and factories. Permanent Ukrainian departments were opened in large bookstores.

We were moved and heartened by this very much. We were even more moved to see many customers buying Ukrainian books, both Ukrainians and Russians.

Highest sales were enjoyed by ~~Myras~~ SHEVCHENKO's "Kobza". People also bought works of ~~M.~~ KOTSIUBYNSKY, ~~Marko~~ VOVCHOK, Ivan FRANKO, and of modern writers ~~by~~ ~~M.~~ HONCHAR, ~~P.~~ PANCH, ~~M.~~ STELMAKH, ~~Yu.~~ SMOLYCH and ~~M.~~ STROKOVSKY ("Taihabud"). Many books for children were sold...

We also were invited to appear on the radio and television. We were heard and seen by all Sverdlovsk. The entire Urals knew about the Ukrainian Book Festival."

6. Brussels Fair: AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he has received word from his contacts in the KUK (Canadian Ukrainian Congress) that any activity or Ukrainian display was impossible at the Canadian pavilion at Brussels. Included as Attachment 1 is a copy of the letter that KUK received from the Canadian Brussels Fair Committee.

Since inquiries also revealed that no action via the American and Vatican pavilions was possible, AECASSOWARY-2 suggests that attempts be made to obtain permission from some Brussels bookstore or other firms to provide Ukrainian books and materials for sale to Soviet Ukrainian delegates and tourists. This could be set up as a strictly commercial venture with the book dealer receiving a 40% cut of all sales. At the same time plans should be made to rent window space for a display contrasting publications of the Soviet Ukraine with those of the Ukrainian emigration in such fields as history of the

Ukraine, history of Ukrainian literary, literary works banned in the Soviet Ukraine, and copies of the Encyclopedia published in the West, but not yet begun in Soviet Ukraine after 40 years.

Under AECASSOWARY-2's instruction, ⁴Vasyl MARKUS, the Paris CASSOWARY representative traveled to Brussels last month and learned that the Brussels Fair Committee is allowing an all-nationalities pavilion where various emigre groups would be able to have sections for displays, book collections, etc. He was unable to learn whether it would be possible to obtain space at this pavilion but heard that both OUN/Bandera and the NTS were trying to get space there. MARKUS also made contact with several Ukrainians in Brussels who could aid a CASSOWARY representative in any activity they could set up but were unable to organize such activity themselves.

Though MARKUS could possibly provide initial direction for some CASSOWARY action at the Fair, he is at present completely occupied with his duties as editor of the journal "Ukrainsky Samostiynik". He is also participating in some conference in Austria which will keep him occupied most of February. For this reason AECASSOWARY-2 suggested that we send a CASSOWARY representative immediate from PEPRIME (possibly AECASSOWARY 15) to Brussels to further investigate all possibilities of action at the Fair, and to organize some type of activity through Brussels bookstores or firms.

send funds at once at together this and lay the details

AECASSOWARY-2 further stated that he believes that a CASSOWARY contingent at the Brussels Fair (consisting of an overall director supplemented by Ukrainians available in Brussels, France, England and Germany) could carry out valuable PP and FI activity. Besides providing Ukrainian literature, the group could initiate contacts with interested Soviet personnel and relay information to them about the West both orally and via printed matter. Various leaflets, information bulletins, and newspapers could be prepared and relayed to such contacts as well as "lost" in strategic areas of the Soviet and satellite pavilions. A special issue of the AECASSOWARY newspaper "Suchasna Ukraina" could be prepared especially for the Fair including articles on topics which would be of interest to visiting Soviet Ukrainians. Advertisements could be placed in Brussels papers informing Fair visitors that materials are available at a designated bookstore or firm. Should such a Ukrainian book collection or display be set up in Brussels, future issues of the "Information Bulletin" now being mailed into the Soviet Ukraine, and future broadcasts from Radio PYREX and Radio MAIRID could advertise the fact that such a Ukrainian book collection would have Ukrainian books and materials not now available in the Soviet Union, such as ~~TRUSHEVSKY~~'s "History of the Ukraine", ~~CHIZEVSKY~~'s "History of Ukrainian Literature", the Ukrainian Encyclopedia, and works by writers now banned in the Soviet Ukraine.

In view of the AECASSOWARY contact with Ukrainians in Poland, AECASSOWARY-2 suggested that we make funds available to several of the most reliable of these contacts to provide them with means to come to the Brussels Fair. Should such a contact materialize in Brussels, we would have a secure meeting with a Ukrainian who would be able to provide us with valuable operation information both on the situation in Poland, as well as on the possibilities of increased PP or FI action

against the Soviet Ukraine via Poland. All arrangements for such a meeting could be arranged by ~~Dr. Oleksa HORBACH~~ who has personally met many of the Ukrainians in Poland, and who would not draw suspicion to himself since his reputation as a Slavic scholar would give him adequate reason to be interested in meeting with his counterparts from Poland. Dr. HORBACH would also be valuable for contacts with Soviet Ukrainian scholars and professors at the Fair since a common interest in Slavic history, literature and linguistics would provide an easy approach. In connection with this, AECASSOWARY-2 inquired whether it might not be advisable to investigate the possibility of having some AECASSOWARY contacts from the Soviet Ukraine come to the Fair with our financial aid.

Other personnel available for AECASSOWARY activity in Brussels include several Ukrainians in Brussels: A. KAMINSKY and other Ukrainians from England; Vasyl MARKUS and AECASSOWARY-28 in Paris; AECASSOWARY-6, Dr. HORBACH and Ivan KOSHELIVETS from West Germany. The latter would be especially suitable for contacts with Soviet Ukrainians from Eastern Ukraine, since he himself comes from Kharkov and served as an air force captain in the Red Army prior to his emigration.

AECASSOWARY-2 stressed the fact that it is imperative to send to Brussels immediately some AECASSOWARY representative with experience and initiative to investigate all possibilities of action, make the necessary arrangements with local Belgian Ukrainians, Brussels Fair officials, and Brussels bookstores or other firms for the type of action outline above. It is AECASSOWARY-2's belief that it will be imperative to have such CASSOWARY representative remain in Brussels during the whole operation, establish files for checking out Soviet delegates, tourists and visitors at the Fair, arrange for contacts between vulnerable Soviet personnel and AECASSOWARY representatives, and serve as liaison with KUBARK headquarters or field case officer.

7. Prolog Offices: The undersigned case officer informed AECASSOWARY-2 that a security survey of the Prolog office site would be made in the near future. This would also include a counter-audio survey. In reference to the lack of individual mail boxes at the apartment house (all mail is deposited with the superintendent in the basement for sorting) the undersigned suggested the possibility of obtaining a post office box.

AECASSOWARY-2 stated that the lease for the present apartment expires on 31 January 1958 and that in the future they will rent the apartment on a month to month basis. AECASSOWARY-2 asked whether KUBARK would have any objections if Prolog Associates purchased a house somewhere in the New York area which could be used exclusively as Prolog offices. This would give them more working space and the rent could be utilized for payments on the house. The initial investment would be raised by members of Prolog from individual funds. The undersigned promised to investigate this possibility and inform AECASSOWARY-2 on the legal, security, and accounting aspects of such a purchase.

8. HUNGARIAN Fighters for Freedom: AECASSOWARY-2 stated that General ~~Bela~~ KIRALY, the commander of the Budapest revolutionary forces in the October 1956 revolt is now attempting to set up a Hungarian emigre group which would continue the fight for liberation of Hungary from Communism. He made

contact with AECASSOWARY-27 and inquired about the activities of Prolog and asked assistance in setting up a similar study group which would publish materials about the Hungarian liberation fight.

Let's do a name check on him

AECASSOWARY-2 stated that active cooperation between such a Hungarian group and AEBEEHIVE would be very productive both PP and operation-wise. Exchange of articles about the common anti-Communist fight would be mutually profitable and various cooperative activity could be initiated.

9. Ukrainians in Argentina: According to the AECASSOWARY representative in Argentina, Vasyl IVANITSKYI, who is director of the Ukrainian Central Representation there, the Ukrainians organized a large banquet in honor of the 40th anniversary of the declaration of Ukrainian independence in 1917. Prior to the banquet held in November and attended by many Argentine notables, the Ukrainian Central Representation prepared large posters in Spanish entitled "Libertad, Ucraina" which summarized the Ukrainian fight for independence. These posters were placed in conspicuous places throughout Buenos Aires.

a must inform HQ. that his stuff will be used in the air

10. Other Matters: *NO-201* Ivan MAISTRENKO, head of URDP/left recently inquired of AECASSOWARY-2 whether he could contribute articles to the AECASSOWARY publications. AECASSOWARY-2 suggested that MAISTRENKO contact the editors of "Suchasna Ukraina", but the latter refused to accept any of MAISTRENKO's work until he apologized for some previous attacks on their paper. After this refusal, AECASSOWARY-2 informed MAISTRENKO that he may be able to find some use for suitable articles but that they pay would be very nominal. AECASSOWARY-2 plans to utilize some of MAISTRENKO's articles in the "Information Bulletin" or in preparation of Radio PYREX tapes. MAISTRENKO is an expert polemicist but leans towards a pro-Leninist national Communism and believes that the present Soviet government is not Communist but a continuation of Russian imperialism under the name of Bolshevism.

11. ☐ AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he learned through emigre channels that ☐ recently returned from the Soviet Ukraine. Since ☐ lives in Clifton, New Jersey where AECASSOWARY-26 also resides, the latter contacted ☐ and arranged a meeting. AECASSOWARY-26 was able to learn that ☐ had studied in an Austrian University and had traveled from Austria, to Kopchintsi, Ternopil' Oblast, Soviet Ukraine. AECASSOWARY-26 was unable to learn further information from ☐ except for the fact that the latter hopes to get permission from the Soviets to travel to Kiev to study. (Hqs case officer of ☐ was informed of above contact and urged ☐ to tell ☐ to refuse any further meetings. No indications was given to the AECASSOWARIES that we are presently working with ☐)

NO-201

12. AECASSOWARY Cairo Representative: AECASSOWARY-2 stated that a Ukrainian student, Yaroslav STETKIEWICH from Madrid, Spain has now begun his studies at the University of Cairo, Egypt. He has studied Arabic in Spain and is now working on a Ph.D. dissertation based on a contemporary Egyptian author. AECASSOWARY-2 is having him investigate the possibility of sending copies of the "Information Bulletin" from Cairo to the Soviet Ukraine. There may be some problem in mailing the "Bulletin" to Cairo in view of the severe censorship of mail into Egypt from the West.

~~STETKIEWICH~~ writes that he is getting acquainted with the student and social milieu of Cairo and will keep AECASSOWARY-2 informed of Soviet

activities in that area.

✓ No-201
13. Contacts in the Middle East and Europe: AECASSOWARY-2 stated that Stepan ZOSHCHUK, a Ukrainian physician who has lived in Vienna since 1945, recently emigrated to Damascus, Syria. The doctor is an old friend of AECASSOWARY-2 and comes from Kolomyia, Stanislavsky Oblast. ZOSHCHUK studied medicine in Poznan, Poland and was a sympathizer of the OUN during the second world war. AECASSOWARY-2 stated that contact could be established with him through correspondence. AECASSOWARY-2 also received information that a Ukrainian from Canada will be leaving for Morocco in the near future as part of a UN social welfare committee.

gma!
14. Bohdan HAVRILISHEN, a Ukrainian from Canada, is currently studying at the Geneva Industrial Academy in Switzerland. HAVRILISHEN informed AECASSOWARY-2 that he is acquainted with a British student (also studying at the academy) who is a member of a United Nations Committee on Research of the USSR. The British student visited the Ukraine in the spring of 1957 and is supposed to have permission to visit the USSR whenever he so desires. The Undersigned asked AECASSOWARY-2 to obtain the British student's name and additional information about him from HAVRILISHEN.

Regarding trips to the Ukraine, AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he has received information from a girl in Canada who visited the Ukraine recently that all the shop and street signs in Lviv have been changed from Russian to Ukrainian. AECASSOWARY-2 also learned that Joe ELLEN (YELENIUK), a Ukrainian from Toronto, Canada desires to visit the Ukraine for a second time. (ELLEN visited the Ukraine in December 1956 and a report of his trip was attached to the 22 October 1957 contact report)

14. PP Action in Poland: AECASSOWARY-2 informed the Undersigned that additional literature has been purchased for mailing to Ukrainian contacts in Poland. This material is now being packed for mailing to schools, libraries and individuals. AECASSOWARY-2 also stated that there are now at least five Ukrainians in Poland who are prepared to relay literature and other materials to the Soviet Ukraine by channels available to them. They have been instructed to do so in the most secure manner possible and have been assured that additional literature and funds will be made available to continue such action in the future. During the Christmas season in order to aid the Ukrainian contacts in Poland materially and also provide moral support, AEBEEHIVE has sent some food and clothing packages plus some monetary aid to selected contacts (primarily to those who can serve as channels for relaying literature to the Soviet Ukraine.) Letters from the recipients express deep appreciation for this demonstration of interest on the part of American Ukrainians towards their less fortunate fellow countrymen. The letters also reveal that the Ukrainians in Poland are striving against great odds to preserve their Ukrainian culture and to set up schools for their children. Some of the monetary aid sent to individuals will be used to order subscriptions of the Ukrainian language publication "Nashe Slovo" for friends and relatives in the Soviet Ukraine where the publication is eagerly read. It has also produced a friendly feeling towards their western friends and should make future contacts with the Ukrainians in Poland by an AECASSOWARY

Would like to follow this up. If he can get into some interesting stuff in the area he might be a source of PT. Discuss with [] []

who?

representative easier and more productive.

NO-201
Included as Attachments 2 and 3 are copies of two letters from M. SIWICKI, the Ukrainian contact in Warsaw who was instrumental in organizing the Ukrainian Social Cultural Society there in 1956. The first letter written by SIWICKI was in response to a small monetary gift sent to him by AEBEEHIVE. In this letter SIWICKI enclosed another long letter to a friend Stepan KUCHLEWSKI, asking the AEBEEHIVE people to relay it to KUCHLEWSKI from New York. The second letter is an obvious attempt to give the AEBEEHIVE group detailed information about Siwicki and his present activities, and is of considerable interest in that it reveals the difficult conditions under which SIWICKI must work and the current infiltration of the Ukrainian Social Cultural Society by Soviet elements.

ops, but in limited scale - Czechos more than Rumania
15. Possible PP Action via other Satellite Countries: AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he has now obtained approximately ten addresses of Ukrainians in Czechoslovakia and Rumania and wishes to know if we are interested in attempting to set up a similar PP action directed against the Ukrainian SSR from these countries. Both countries now allow Ukrainian language newspapers.

Rumania has approximately 120,000 Ukrainians and allows one hundred and twenty (120) Ukrainian public schools and three (3) Ukrainian high schools. A separate chair of Ukrainian literature, history and language has been organized at Bucharest University, presently under the direction of Prof. K DRAPAK.

In Czechoslovakia there are also approximately 120,000 Ukrainians living in a compact mass in north eastern Slovakia along the Polish and Soviet Ukrainian borders. Ukrainian schools in Czechoslovakia are quite numerous including two hundred and nine (209) public schools, a number of secondary schools, a Ukrainian pedagogical school and a few agricultural and industrial schools instructing in the Ukrainian language. Several Ukrainian newspapers and a literary quarterly are published. Artistic clubs, singing and dancing ensembles and even a Ukrainian radio program are allowed. Cultural and educational contacts exist between the Ukrainians in Slovakia and the Ukrainians in the neighboring Soviet Ukraine.

16. AERODYNAMIC Budget FY 1959: The Undersigned asked AECASSOWARY-2 to make a preliminary estimate of FY 1959 expenditures on the basis of FY 1958 activities and expenditures. AECASSOWARY-2 was also informed that the FY 1959 budget for AERODYNAMIC will be similar to that of FY 1958 (about ☐ AECASSOWARY-2 mentioned several expenditures which have exceeded budget estimates for this year, and several problems such as lack of sufficient personnel under the FY 1958 budget. The Undersigned stated that once AECASSOWARY-2 prepares a preliminary estimate, all items will be discussed and every attempt made to work out a suitable budget.

In reference to the FY 1959 expenditures AECASSOWARY-2 inquired whether it might not be possible to include sufficient travel funds to allow him to make a trip abroad to contact his representatives in various

countries. All arrangements for mailing "Information Bulletins" to the Soviet Union have been made by mail and problems have arisen which could be most effectively settled by a personal visit. At the same time, the Branch office in Munich is in need of operational and administrative advice which is difficult to relay by correspondence. AECASSOWARY- 2 last visited Europe in 1954 for operational purposes connected with the AECARTHAGE 19 and 20 case and has not been able to make a trip since. As he is now an American citizen, no problems are envisioned in regards to obtaining visas, since he already has his passport.

[]

SR/3/CE

*High time for
another personal visit.
We've got to find the dough
in the budget.*

Attachments:
1-3 as described in Memo

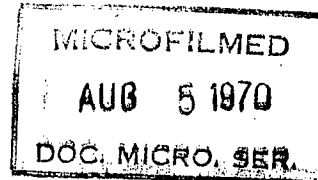
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Attach. I

Canadian Government Exhibition Commission
Trade and Commerce
479 Bank Street,

Ottawa, January 14, 1958.

Mr. W. S. Kochan
Executive Director
Ukrainian Canadian Committee
Winnipeg, Manitoba.



Dear Sir:

Your letter of December 17, 1957, addressed to the Department of Trade and Commerce, came to me some time ago for reply. All my staff and documentation are now in Brussels, where I am going at the end of this month, and I must explain my long delay in writing to you on the grounds that I am alone to handle a tremendous volume of correspondence, production and administration.

The section on the "People of Canada" in the Canadian Pavilion at the Brussels Universal and International Exhibition, 1958, is a graphic one, designed to help the outside world realize that men, women and children of 46 ethnic groups have had a share in developing and shaping the Canada of today. This is only one of 23 exhibits in our building, though its theme is repeated in the great mural wall being created by Louis Archambault (see Maclean's Magazine for 18 January 1958) and again in the Library, art gallery, music room, cinema theatre and fine arts display.

Canada's entire participation has been an official one. While many groups have been consulted in the course of its development, nobody as a unit is taking part in any display. This was a policy decision, reached nearly four years ago. You will agree, I think, that if hosts of groups had been invited to move into the Pavilion it would have been all but impossible to develop an integrated presentation, especially of a country as diverse and as fast-growing as Canada is. It would also have led to confusion in the minds of visitors who have some sixty Pavilions to choose from and are likely to be attracted to those which tell their story in the simplest, most direct and most striking way possible.

Thank you very much for the interest which you and your group have shown in our effort. I do hope that some of you will be able to visit Brussels during the exhibition, which will be open from April 17 to October 19 and that, if you do, you will like Canada's story as it is being told there.

Yours sincerely

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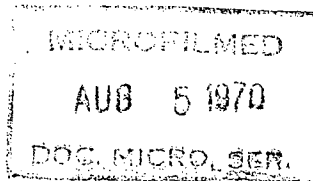
T. L. Bullock
Chief Information Officer
Canadian Participation
Brussels '58.

H/w att 1 to SX 16823

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AH. 2

Attachment 2 - Letter from M. SIWICKI from Warsaw, Poland



Warsaw, 9 Dec 1957

Respectable Mr. Bohun:

I received 10 dollars in the mail. I will soon purchase several subscriptions (of Nashe Slovo- Ed. Note) for individuals in the Soviet Ukraine. Since I have only one address from the Ternopil' area, I must wait till I acquire several more. If I don't succeed in this, permit me to send subscriptions to individuals in Volynia.

One seldom receives letters which are as moving as this one from you. I am acquainted with American Ukrainians from the pre-war press and I understand that ^{are} many of them and that they have not changed in character. We know that Ukrainians in America would like to help us rebuild our whole way of life but under present conditions even when we have needs we must say "thank you, we don't need anything." However, some steps are now being taken to receive aid officially for our future cooperatives.

My wife and I send many thanks to you and your friends. Who we are and what we do and how we live you will learn from the enclosed letter which I ask you to kindly send to my countryman who used to live in the neighboring village. From this letter you will learn about the situation in which we work. But because this work is not for bread alone but is necessary for hundreds of thousands of people, this work gives satisfaction and inexhaustible energy.

of clothing It's a pity to have to struggle for the acquisition of a few pieces at the expense of other activity. My salary suffices for food, but for clothing it is necessary to perform additional work. And I would so like to dig in old books and materials in libraries, to do research in our history and literature, and to work with untouched source material and reveal it to the world. Many of these sources are in Warsaw, Wroclaw, Poznan, and Cracow and have not yet been published. (Ukrainians come from abroad* and dig in them (true, we have witnessed only individual instances for the time being) and here I have no time for this kind of work.

But to get to the point. Again I did not receive "Veselka". I also have not received other items sent to the address "RH". It means that the address is not adequate. If you have something on the history of the Ukraine or the history of Ukrainian literature, please send it to me via the address of the Institute which I give in the letter to my friend.

Att. 2 to RH 6523 * Soviet Ukraine

I have received children's literature at this address without any difficulty. It is worthwhile to mention that I have in my office "Veselka" for the year 1954-1955. "Svoboda" sent it.

To send you books of history, economics and literature (you asked for it in your letter of October the 3rd) I need more concrete description of items needed and an address of an institution to which I can send them. Mailing the books to a private address encounters great difficulties (this is a recent order). Insofar as specific titles are concerned, I can make arrangements to have the journal "Novi Ksiazki" (New Books) sent to you. They publish reviews of all books scheduled for publication. Choose the titles you desire and I will send them to you. Please, write if you agree.

Your books, particularly the scientific ones, are needed by people other than myself. Our scientists in Lviv ask for them. They are entirely cut off from the outside world. I go there personally and often have a chance to deliver such books. Over there even "Nashe Slovo" is sensational. Therefore we send it to them as much as we can. Of course, we pay for it with our own money and send it to addresses which we know, because "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga" still does not accept subscriptions.

The enclosed letter and photograph please send to the following address: ~~SS~~ Kuchlewski, 246 Walnut Avenue, Trenton, N. J., USA.

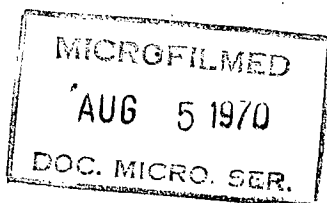
Once again I thank you for your support which at Christmas time was particularly of value. And if I sometimes write "strictly officially" please don't be astonished.

With regards

Mikola Siwicki

*If ever we can get into
business this would be very good
for SW (or microdot) for pin-point code.*

AH. 3



Warsaw

8 December 1957

4P

My dear friend Stepan,

I was indeed very pleased, after long sufferings, to get your address. (I don't remember how we addressed each other, but I will use "TY" because it is much closer.) As nineteen years have passed, it is difficult to know where to begin. We have lived through so much, heard so many bad things - One is missing; another was killed, and no knowledge of the whereabouts of another.

As of the 30th of last month, of our circle of the intelligentsia or rather the active ones of Dubno, only a few remain now. And I say with deep sincerity, our group was indicative of the highest cultural life of the whole region. PROTAS from Mykytychi was killed by Germans in the editorial offices of a paper in Rivne. Tryfon SMOLAR was killed by our own people in Detynychi; MOROZ from Nahorizny was in prison with me in Dubno and probably perished in Siberia. The TYMONDUKS from Tarakaniv, probably all three of them, are missing- and their neighbor ZHENKA too. Ivan ONUFRIYCHUK is dead also. I can not remember the others from the more distant villages. Mykola MARTYN is still alive.

Who is left? MARKO from Detynychi lives in Dubno with his three children working as a locksmith and financially can hardly breathe. KVARTSENIUK is teaching in Tarakaniv. Even SUMNYK is somewhere in Strakliv working in a warehouse. Mykhalko TROFINCHUK, grey as a dove, goes around and puts glass in people's windows. They were all once people with human dignity and now are nothing but beggars.

How do I know all this? In August 1955 and December 1956, my family and I went home, saw and talked to them. I expect to go again in July.

Now about me. As you know, in October 1939, I was elected to the first rayon rada. Investigations started and then, based on the files of the Verbiv police station, my election was questioned. I was invited "for 15 minutes" there and came back five and a half years later. I was in prison for one year in Dubno, three months of it in solitary, and 11 days on a hunger strike. And although they were never able to prove my guilt, after one year I was brought to the office and given five years as a socially dangerous element.

On 2 October 1940 I was in transit - Kiev, Poltava, Kharkiv and ended up in Kuybishev. First I worked as a carpenter, then in a quarry in Zhygula. When war broke out on 22 June 1941, I was in Moscow on a transport to Vorkuta. So I wound up in that marvelous land where the sun does not set for months and where "it is just summer and summer, and only 9 months of winter". We did not work at temperatures lower than 53 below zero. Up until 1945, I was in about 15 different kinds of trades and professions, twice almost dying of exhaustion, but somehow, thank God, good people saved me. Out of all this I learned one good lesson for the rest of my life: If you have a piece of dry, hard bread, don't complain about your fate.

Att. 3 to PL 16823

The prison term ended. With some connections, I succeeded (as a Polish citizen) in returning by joining the Polish army. In March 1945, I returned from Siberia to my home where my fiancée ~~Ulitia~~ SAVKOVA had been waiting for six years. My mother had already died, our buildings were removed to a kolkhoz, and the land plowed under by tractors. "We are pleased to see you, but go away quickly wherever you want, here you won't remain long, you will be taken to the woods". After two days at home I went to Lublin and from there in six weeks I was at the front. I marched through Germany, was stopped at the Elbe where my right leg was amputated. When I recovered, I received an artificial leg and continued in the army as a professional.

In 1946 I received a visa and traveled home, married Ulita and took her to Poland as a repatriant. You know that I am a self-educated man, not even going to grammar school. While in the army, I took evening courses and finished high school, tried and succeeded in being transferred to Warsaw and enrolled at the University. I left the army because it was too much to try to continue with both. By the time I had finished with my studies, we already had three children. Ulitia earned the living by sewing in a co-operative. I am lucky to be so strong willed, because not everyone could have gotten their masters degree under such circumstances. I made it in 1956.

In 1955 I became acquainted with some Ukrainians in Warsaw, where I got involved in organization work. I gathered fifty signatures for an application to establish the Ukrainian Social-Cultural Association and was elected secretary of the Committee on Organization. After organizing the convention, I stepped down.

We organized the first Ukrainian weekly in Poland, "Nashe Slova". And I again became a secretary - of the editorial staff, but not for long. Friction started over the trend of the paper. The Polish "October" arrived with Gomulka taking over. Excitement prevailed over the paper. The paper split into two factions: The editor-in-chief and his deputy on one side; the rest of the staff on the other. The struggle reached a climax at the plenary session of the USKT in December 1956, but the "chiefs" had plenty of backing.

The next day I was removed from secretaryship and appointed editor of educational affairs. The whole "opposition" was purged - I alone remained. I was "advised" to publish a self-critique in the paper or quit. I did neither. For the time being I worked as editor of the monthly supplement for children "Dytiache Slovo" and deal with school affairs. It is a lot of work. My greatest desire is for a good school system. This is most important today, because to some extent it interferes with denationalization. Be sure and get our paper and you will see for yourself.

After studying for four years, I am financially very weak. There are possibilities of making some money with the paper, but not for one who could be fired any day. I try additional work. I have already written two textbooks for the III and IV grades to be used in Ukrainian schools which are being

published this fall. I wrote the "Catalogue of Ukrainian Literature" which is ordered from the Ukrainian SSR. It will be coming off the press in about one week. This has somewhat strengthened my finances. Living is expensive - especially clothing. There are five in my family now: my wife, two daughters (Yarna, 7 and in school, Hania, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$) and a son, Levko who is three. But I don't worry, we will make it somehow, and I believe the future is ours. We have lived through much worse.

At present I intend to undertake a big job. I am going to write an "Outline of History of Ukrainian Literature". I am aware that I am probably too inferior for such a work, but if it ~~isnt~~ done by small people, it will never be done. The main problem is that the USKT refused to sign an agreement with me for this work. In the Soviet Union they say nothing of that kind has been written because there is no "Concept" (today they are beginning to change their views on such individuals as ~~IO. OLES~~) and how could I jump "before the father" with my appraisalment... You may write, they say, but publish it on your own.

Anyway, I will write. I think in one years time I will do it. When it is finished, I hope Polish publishers will print it. A history of literature and a good one is as necessary for our people as water is for a sponge. It wont be easy financially, because other work must be put aside for that period of time. But nothing is impossible when a man is willing to do it.

I ask a request of you. I need material for this work. Whatever you find, please send to me. The address: Polonia, Warsaw, 10 Foksal Street, Instytut Polsko-Radziecki, Zaklad filologii ukraininskiej. Inside on the first page write with pencil: To M. SIWICKI. I need critical reviews of Soviet literature very much because I should start with this first. Sources for the pre-war period I have in a small amount, although it is borrowed material.

Further, I enclose a letter and photographs from your wife and daughter. When I was in Pidluzhe in 1955, your wife and daughter handed them to me together with the address of a Pole, who had your address. I wrote to him several times, but he did not answer. Therefore, I kept it until now. I shall not write much about your relatives, because I am sure Ivan has already written to you about them. Ivan and I are the closest of friends, as it should be among fellow countrymen. But I regret he did not join into the cultural-educational work. He married a girl not of our faith and works in alien surroundings. He comes to see me often - to make it easier for the soul, he says.

This letter is exceptionally long because I was so overjoyed at finding again my old friend, and I really have much to tell. In the future I do not promise to write much, as I have little free time. Time is precious, there are those who need our work, and we have no people to work. Second, life has taught me to write as few letters like this as possible. This is an

exception, I allow myself this time. If there is anything you want to know, please ask.

Ulita does proof-reading. ~~Hryts~~ TYMOSHCHUK is alive. The fate of Semen, Ulita's brother is still unknown. The information to date indicates that he was killed by Banderivtsi, but the truth is unknown. Rumor went around that he is living in Galicia.

Letters to me send through Ivan.

Good health to you. May God help to meet you in life again.

Regards from Ulita.

Mykola

Additional text on the margin:

9 December. I read your letter. Ivan told me what he wrote to you. I scolded him because he boasts too much. His condition is, of course, not bad, but this is not indicative of the average person. Here is the situation: You make enough for your food, and do the best you can for your clothing. This is the case with not only me (I actually am better off since I finished school), but this is the general situation...unless one knows how and where to steal. With an education of course, it is better. Up until 1947, I didn't even have a year in grammar school, and at 39 years of age, I received my master's degree...I doubt that would be possible where you are.

Additional text on page 4 (margin)

P.S. My wife says that Zhenka returned recently. She also asks you to send her fashion magazines, and in return she will buy something and take to your daughters. I will again need textbooks, "reading books" for Ukrainian schools V-XI. Send whatever you find.

74-124-29/85